Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Spann, 601-359-6680

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MDA RECEIVES HUD FUNDS TOTALING OVER \$57 MILLION TO ASSIST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITIES

JACKSON, Miss. – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced Tuesday that the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) has been awarded grant monies totaling \$57,343,000 to support the Community Block Grant Program (CDBG) and other community assistance programs.

The funds will be utilized to undertake public facilities and economic development projects throughout the state. With these funds, the state will focus on projects and infrastructure improvements in an effort to eliminate slum and blight conditions and to improve the quality of life for all citizens.

"The Mississippi Development Authority understands the challenges of communities and community leaders," said Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., Executive Director, MDA. "These funds will boost our ability to provide the most timely and community-oriented services to our neighbors across the state."

"MDA is charged with adminstering a variety of federal and state monies, like the HUD grant funds. It is a tremendous responsibility and we look forward to the opportunity to award grants to worthy communities. These funds will help MDA open many doors for communities statewide," commented Sam Mozee, Director of MDA's Community Services Division.

Specific areas of funding include:

- Community Development Block Grant Program \$39,265,000
- Home Investment Partnerships Program \$15,521,000
- Emergency Shelter Grant Program \$1,460,000
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program \$1,097,000

For more information about grant and loan opportunities available to communities through the Mississippi Development Authority, contact the Community Services Division at 601-359-3179 or visit MDA on the World Wide Web at www.mississippi.org.